



# NEWSLETTER THOMAS MORE Catholic School

# 2020

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

St Catherine of Siena.

Feb Issue 1

## TMCS NOTICES

**End of half term**

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020  
Normal School Day

**Return to School**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020  
Normal School Day



# 01 | School News

## Year 11 Rugby

On Wednesday afternoon, 15-year 11 pupils took part in the Harlequins Riddlesdown Rugby 10s tournament. A keen group of Year 11 Thomas More pupils had recently been training as a rugby team and this was an ideal chance to play in a competitive match for the first time. The competition was organised by the Harlequins premier team and Mike Brown - the England Fullback of 70plus caps - was there to meet pupils. The Thomas More team had the opportunity to do their warm up routines with the Harlequins under 21 coach and his team, who put our boys through some pre match drills.

The competition involved 10 teams from Wilson's and Riddlesdown, to Oxted and Warlingham. Thomas More played five matches and it was not only about winning. It was about putting the training into practice, and playing proper rugby.

The team excelled, everybody made tackles, and everyone tried their hardest. Rucking and setting was brilliant. In our very first match, we narrowly lost one try to nil, but spent 90% of the game in the Carshalton boys 22, camped on their try line, recycling phase after phase. We were unlucky not to score and draw the game. The most impressive thing was how quickly the boys gelled and they immediately started looking like a rugby team. The training had worked.

In our other games, we began to understand how to play; Javonti, Eric and Damola scored tries. A special mention should go to Tyree who was an amazing tackling machine; he raised the possibilities for the others about what they all could achieve. By the mid part of the day, Mr Hawkins and I heard other teams talking about the size and tackling power of Thomas More. We were that impressive. Unfortunately, teams worked out in the latter stages how to stretch our new team and exposed us out wide, meaning we were not able to win a game. However, we made some good contacts and Quest have agreed to play against us in our first 15a side match.

Our pupils had an impressive day out representing Thomas More.

## ERASMUS+

Sustainability, renewability and recycling

Graz, Austria – 26th January to 1st February, 2020

Mrs Cheeseman and Mrs Arter accompanied four Year 7s and two Year 8s to Graz, Austria to participate in the first leg of the Erasmus+ project. In addition to our Austrian hosts, we were joined with pupils from France and Portugal. The central theme was on the environment, its natural resources, sustainable and renewable forms of power and recycling. We shared what we are currently doing in our schools to reduce our carbon footprint, and brainstormed ideas to improve how we can do more.

We visited the technical university of Montan. Here we attended workshops both practical and theoretical, on fossil fuel, CO2 emissions and the world's dependence on them. We explored renewable and sustainable alternatives and the consequences of using them.

During the week, we visited the Eco-Park – a facility with zero CO2 emissions and an Eco-farm where all produce is organically grown and sold at market. We enjoyed an environmental walk around Graz visiting seven locations where renewable resources and recycling are being practised to reduce the town's carbon footprint.

We enjoyed a day in the mountains, snow walking and Ruxbok-sledging – a kind of tobogganing. It was a beautiful setting and everyone had a marvellous time.



**To Care. To Learn. To Achieve**



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## To Care. To Learn. To Achieve

# 02 | Other School News

### Department's Tough Question

Challenge from the presentation shown during form time.

#### Question

where do you put brackets with

$$20 + 5 + 5 \times 2 =$$

to get these answers:

- (a) 14
- (b) 4
- (c) 1
- (d) 18

#### Answer

where do you put brackets with

$$20 + 5 + 5 \times 2 =$$

to get these answers:

- (a) 14  $20 + 5 + (5 \times 2)$
- (b) 4  $(20 + (5 + 5)) \times 2$
- (c) 1  $20 + ((5 + 5) \times 2)$
- (d) 18  $(20 + 5) + 5 \times 2$

### Year 9 Trip to Westminster Cathedral

Year 9s went on the Trip to Westminster Cathedral where we took part in the Spiritual Road Show. Pupils participated in various 'Reflective' workshops and stalls displaying their own interpretation on the theme for the year 'The God who speaks'. We were so pleased that our school chaplain Fr. Francis was able to join this group of Year 9s, who were a credit to our school in the way they conducted themselves throughout the day.



### Thomas More Charter

The Thomas More Charter lunched for pupils in year 7-9 this year. Please ensure that you are completing activities and getting them checked off by your form tutors.

#### What is the Thomas More Charter?

The Thomas More Charter is a list of exciting opportunities that you can do outside of the classroom.

We want to reward you for being part of the school community. The school is a happier place if we are all pulling in the same direction.

We want to ignite your passion and love for your subjects and hobbies.

The aim is to separate you from other pupils. The best universities and employers want to know what sets you apart from everyone else. How do you push yourself outside of the classroom?

### Thursday 6th Feb was 'Inside Out' day at TMCS

Pupils and staff were invited to wear an item of clothing inside out as part of an Awareness Day on Children's Mental Health.

Inside Out Day is to make us at TMCS stop, think, and consider that others may look OK on the outside despite feeling distressed on the inside. Children's Mental Health says, "The aim of 'Inside Out Day' is to remind everyone of how important it is to be respectful, and to think of others as nobody knows how another person may be feeling on the inside."

All donations for wearing your item of clothing 'Inside Out' will go towards supporting 'MIND' a charity, which supports people with mental health issues.



**WE AT THOMAS MORE SCHOOL ARE MINDFUL OF OTHERS!**

## Spirituality Corner

# LAY CHAPLAIN



Lord, this February, we pray...  
 Grant us in all our duties, your help;  
 in all our work, your guidance;  
 in all our troubles, your protection;  
 and in all our anxieties, your peace.  
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord  
 Amen



## Prayer Club

All are welcome on:  
 Wednesday lunchtime  
 Time: 1.15-1.45